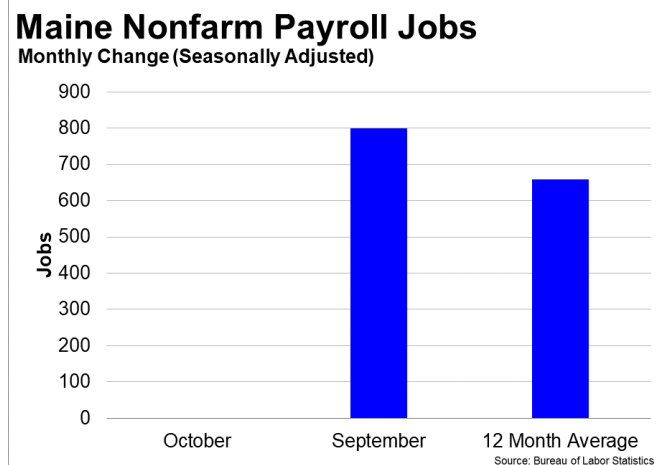
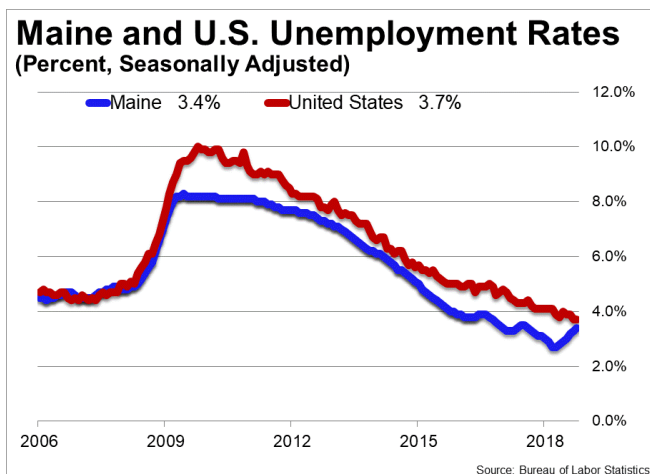




November 16, 2018

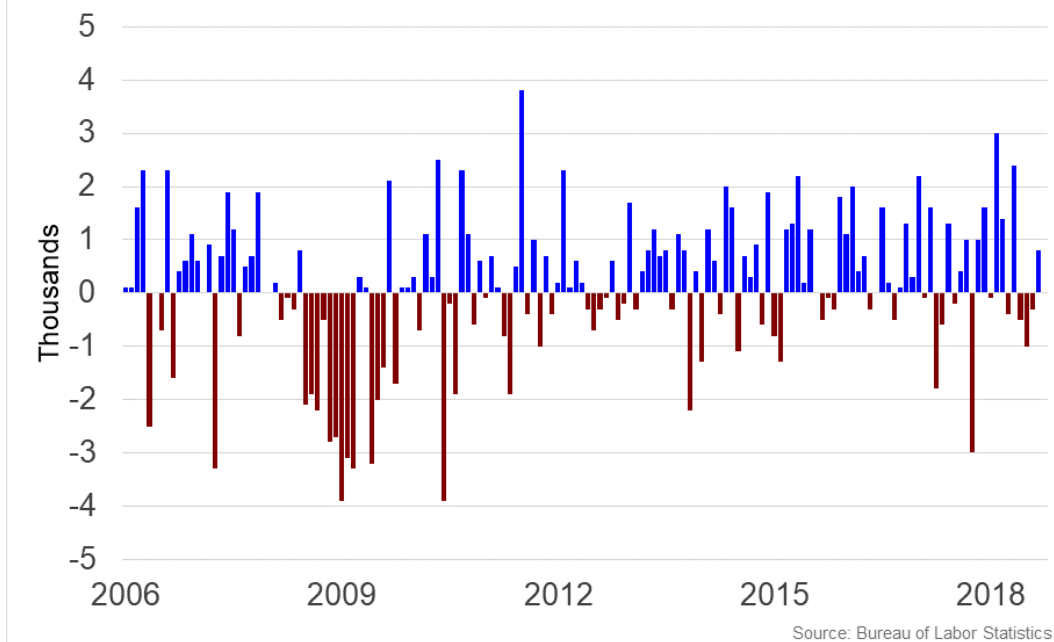
Summary

- **Maine had zero job gains or losses and the unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 3.4 percent in October** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Maine added 7,900 jobs** and the unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point from 3.2 percent.
- **In October, Maine's private sector added 200 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 7,300 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Mainers rose by 642 in October**, and over the past year 3,409 Mainers found jobs.
- Maine's **labor force participation rate decreased to 63.6 percent** from 63.7 percent in October. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.1 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.7 percent in October**. State employment and unemployment data for November is scheduled for release on December 21, 2018. The national employment situation report for November will be released on Friday, December 7, 2018.



Maine Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



Maine Payroll Employment

Maine was unchanged on a seasonally adjusted basis during October. In the prior month, Maine added 800 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Maine increased by 7,900, or 1.27 percent. Maine nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 6 of the past 12 months.

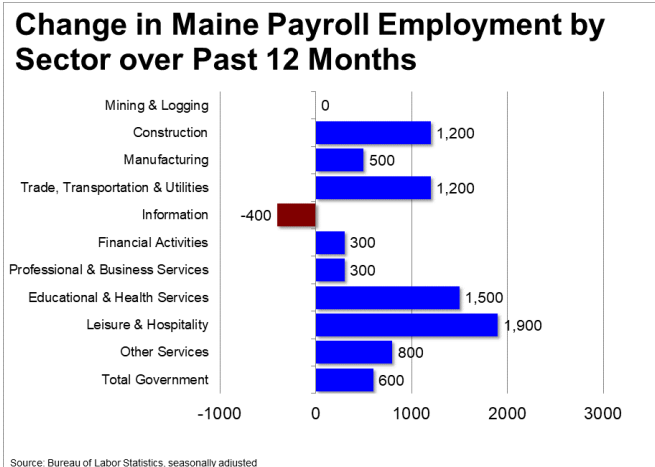
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 250,000 jobs in October, or 0.17 percent. Over the 12-month period ending October 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,516,000 jobs, or 1.71 percent. Maine ranks 15th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During October, Maine's private-sector added 200 jobs, or 0.04 percent. The private-sector in Maine added 900 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Maine increased by 7,300, or 1.40 percent. Maine private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 246,000 jobs in October, or 0.19 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,450,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.96 percent. Maine ranks 16th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during October were Educational & Health Services (+300) and Other Services (+300). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Leisure & Hospitality (-300) and Manufacturing (-200).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure & Hospitality (+1,900) and Educational & Health Services (+1,500). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (-400) and Mining & Logging (unchanged).



Maine Labor Force Statistics

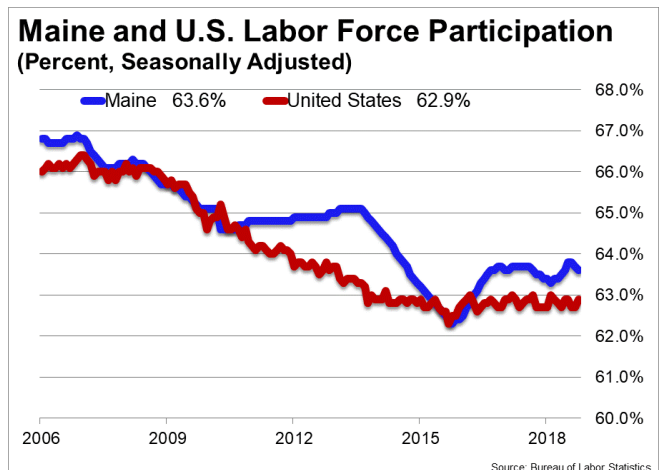
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Maine declined to 63.6 percent in October from 63.7 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 23 have a higher labor force participation rate than Maine. The labor force participation rate in Maine is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Maine was 65.7 percent in February 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Maine occurred in February 2000 when the labor force participation rate hit 68.8 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 62.3 percent in October 2015. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in March 1978 when the labor force participation rate hit 59.7 percent. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.2 percentage point to 62.9 percent in October, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Maine civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, declined to 61.5



percent in October from 61.6 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 22 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Maine. The employment-to-population ratio in Maine is unchanged from a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Maine was 61.8 percent in July 2018. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Maine occurred in April 2000 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 66.4 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 59.3 percent in May 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in December 1977 when the employment-to-population ratio was 55.5 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.2 percentage point to 60.6 percent in October. That rate was 0.4 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

